



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1909-09-24

Letter from Mary E. Newton to John Muir 1909 Sep 24

Mary E. Newton

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820 Worthington Place
Omaha.

(Sept 24, 1909)

My dear Mr. Muir:

We have just reached home, and I hasten to acknowledge my indebtedness to you for your letters of introduction, which were exceedingly helpful to me.

Mr. Bell and his son we found charming gentlemen. Mrs. Braut, to whom I delivered your message about the French bread, said she thought you might go again soon to the Canyon; while Mr. Stevenson thought you might be out to the Petrified

Forests again next year. Mr. Washburn, at Wawona, asked me several times to write to you and urge you to at once put your valuable notes into books for the benefit and enjoyment of humanity. We all hope for new books from your pen soon.

Everyone spoke in terms of great admiration of you and your work, and of your daughters. The Stevensons, especially Mr. Stevenson himself, praised your daughter Wanda (as they always spoke of her) so much and so highly, and told so often of her noble qualities, that I feel it as a personal loss that

I did not become acquainted with her when at her home. When I told them of her noble heroism with the baby twins, they were not at all surprised, but said it was just like her.

We found the Yosemite, the Grand Canyon and the Petrified Forests more beautiful and wonderful than we had dreamed, and enjoyed to the uttermost every moment of our stay. I do not suppose that we shall ever find places in this world, carrying home, that we will leave with greater reluctance and regret than we left the Yosemite, the Grand Canyon and the Petrified Forests.

The delightful days with you
in their woods and at your home
will live always in our memories,
and we shall always feel under
obligations to you for your many
kindnesses to us all. The books
you presented to me are highly
prized. Stikeen I read aloud
to the family, and the highest
praise I can give it is to say that
at its conclusion none of us was
dry-eyed. We at once bought
ten copies and gave them to friends.

We hope to some day see
you in our own home; and if there
is ever any way in which we can
serve you, command us.

Sincerely yours,
Mary E. Newton.

Sept. 24, 1909.